

**Monterey County Branch NAACP  
2020 Civil Rights Advocate and Ally Award –  
Mr. Matt Murphy**

Matt is a psychology undergraduate at CSUMB, where his research has focused on Latinx populations. His goal as President of the college chapter for the NAACP was centered on involving students and raising awareness of social justice issues.

Running events like “Where my People At?” allowed students to interact with faculty and ask questions about the institutions policies on hiring faculty that represented the student body, as well as, allowed for students to voice concerns on issues they felt core to their cultural identity here at CSUMB.

A series of dialogues with students and faculty were based on “White Silence=

Violence” over the course of several semesters. Dialogues were informed by James Baldwin’s writings and the concept that colorblind attitudes lead to dangerous outcomes and erasure of PoCs lived experiences.

Matt worked closely with executive members of the NAACP@CSUMB in running meetings centered around continued open dialogue with students. A great deal of his time was working with the interclub council to promote for the NAACP here at CSUMB along with campaigns for events.

With the support of Steven Goings, Mrinal Sinha and Lilly Martinez the chapter was able to continue on with events and weekly meetings that encompassed the above, but also allowed for the chapter to highlight media from PoC artist.

Matt is now in his last semester and overall his experience as president of the college chapter has left him looking at graduate programs that emphasize social justice issues."